SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 1900. Telephone Calls. Business Office ..... 238 | Editorial Rooms .... TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. DAILY BY MAIL

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THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL Can be found at the following places: NEW YORK-Astor House.

CHICAGO-Palmer House, P. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street, Great Northern Hotel and CINCINNATI-J. R. Hawley & Co., 154 Vin LOUISVILLE-C. T. Deering, northwest corner f Third and Jefferson streets, and Louisville Book Co., 256 Fourth avenue.

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Dun & Co.'s statement that business is per cent, better than it was a year ago not a campaign lie, but a statement of cold

A secret decree of the dowager Empress of China declares that the European pow ers look on the empire with "tiger-like voracity." She has an Oriental style.

So long as there is \$400,000,000 of gold in the treasury, the greenbacks will not b used as an endless chain because, when redemption is certain, people prefer green-

The bank clearings continue to increas outside of New York, but in that city the have fallen off because of the decline stock speculation, which is a vocation out side of the business which gives employ ment and increases real values.

Senator Hale's declaration that the Brit ish war against the Boers is "the most fe blow at human liberty that has been struck in the century" is more rhetorical than There is no British colony that does not enjoy more liberty and better govern ment than the so-called Transvaal repub-

If Congress desires to extend the limit the annual income beyond which a soldier's widow cannot be pensioned, why does it not act upon the advice of the President and pass a bill to that effect? Not even Congress has a right to fin? fault with others for the existence of an evil which it can

Even those who are not sympathizers Boers will admit that Senato Hale was in the right and represented the sentiment of all the American people when he declared that Mr. Chamberlain had no right to declare that the American people are in full sympathy with any movement which will extend the power of the English-speaking people

The New York Sun informs two ne Presbyterian preachers who have been called to that city that they must preach no theoretical sentimentalism, no scientific criticism, but straight, old-fashioned, un diluted Westminster Calvinism, which, that paper says, is greatly needed in New York The Sun further declares that "religion and science are diametrically and irreconcilably opposed." The Sun is making things very

A Chicago paper announces that a great smallpox epidemic is feared in Indiana based on the statements of Dr. Hurty, th paper adding that "considerable excitement is manifest all over the State, and compe tent authorities believe that we are to pass into one of the most disastrous epidemics ever known in the history of the State." As more than a thousand cases of the dis ease, whatever it is, have been reported here and there, and not a single death or a really serious illness is cited, the prediction of "the most disastrous epidemic" ever known in Indiana may be regarded as the vegary of an exaggerated imagination.

It must be apparent that the British army now confronting the Boers north of the Tugela river has a most serious task before it because the methods of warfare been most radically changed since well-armed and efficiently officered been confronted by a similar Years ago, the chances were against the attacking army, even if it was largely superior in numbers, but now the rapid-fire and long-range weapons, whether rifles or cannon, have added immensely to the difof the attacking force. These arms have come into use since any great war between troops of discipline and courage. If it were almost impossible for an assault to be successful in the face of muzzle-loading muskets, with a range 1,000 yards, and cannon which could be served rapidly, assault in the face rapid-fire, breech-loading rifles and cannon must be a forlorn hope. Taking this view of the matter, a long time may expire before the British can force the Boers When accomplished it must by strategy rather than by an assault in front. There are conditions superior to

The law of New York makes the adopmachines certain, since that is not sanctioned by the Legislature, by the Governor to examine all

in Utica. Buffalo contains 60,000 voters, yet will be begun simultaneously at

THE SUNDAY JOURNAL every machine worked satisfactorily and the last return was complete in seventythree minutes after the closing of the polls. Eighteen adding machines were used for the tabulation of the results. In Rochester the returns from all the voting places were at headquarters thirty-nine minutes after the closing of the polls. It can be added that every statement of the result of the use of voting machines in New York is an argument in favor of their adoption.

> INJUSTICE TO NEWSPAPERS. In a recent address before the New York

Bar Association, Justice Brown, of United States Supreme Court, made an unjustifiable attack upon the newspapers of the country. It was unjustifiable be cause he cannot produce the facts to sustain his charge that the press is "a despotic and irresponsible power." He declared that "ugly stories are told of the methods resorted to to create a sensation or to advertise a paper; of correspondents sent to Washington with instructions to blacken the character of particular men regardless of facts; of editorial space sold for so much a line; of sples put into our houses to unearth domestic scandals, upon the steps of public men to ferret out political secrets," and many other things detrimental to the character of newspapers. Of how many papers in the country that have a paying clientage has Judge Brown heard these stories? One hundred and fifty daily papers in the United States are represented in Washington by special correspondents. How many of these correspondents "have instructions to blacken the character of particular men regardless of the facts?" All the papers which are suspected of such an offense can be counted on the fingers of one hand. There is much criticism that is unjust, and gossip is often given as fact, but the instances are rare that men are assailed with false accusation. Secretary Gage has been so assailed of late, but the accusations were made in the House by men who are alleged to belong to the really noble profession

of which Justice Brown is an honored There are papers such as Justice Brown describes, but very few of them have reputation that warrants intelligent people in believing anything that appears in them. There is, here and there, a local paper of some circulation whose vocation is that of the scavenger, just as there are lawyers who blackmail or merchants who wil defraud. Because there are dishonest law yers and merchants it is unjust to assume that all lawyers and merchants are dis honest. It is equally unjust to declare that all newspapers will slander and misrepre sent because there is a sensational newspaper press whose vocation is to pander to a considerable element in large cities that seeks sensationalism. The vast ma jority of newspapers desire to give the facts regarding men and current events. The instructions of their managers are to ge all the facts and to give accurate ac counts of events. That most papers do se is evident from the few complaints which are made of real inaccuracies. Minor in accuracies there will always be, because no two men or women have the same recol lections of an event or of a statement. Moreover, the tendency is toward fair statement and accuracy. The old-time scurrility of political newspapers has near-

ly disappeared. The "reptile contemporary" is foun; only in the organs of the remote cross The proceedings of a convention of the opposite party are usually fairly given by the party newspaper because the reading public more and more demands the facts in accounts of all events as well as in the market reports. There is not paper in the country with a respectable patronage which would sell its editorial columns. This is not only because there is as much honor on the part of newspaper publishers as can be found with men in other employments, but because such base dishonesty would be discovered and, once discovered, the paper would be It is easy to charge rascality against newspapers on the street corners, as has been done in this city, but when the street corner accusers were called into the grand jury room they confessed ignorance of the matter they proclaimed on ru-

newspapers great injustice in that he attributes to all the faults and crimes of the

# A GREAT WORK.

The underground railroad about to

of the kind constructed in this other one being under the city of London. Of tunnels there are many both in Europe and the United States, but these are only parts of surface railroads. The greatest engineering work in that line in this country falls considerably behind those of Europe, the Hoosac tunnel in Massachusetts. the longest in the United States, being 4% miles long, while Mont Cenis which connects the railways of France and Italy, is 71/2 miles long, and the St. Gothard tunnel, between Switzerland and Italy, is 91/4 miles in length. There are probably more short tunnels in the United States than in Europe, but none as the great ones above named. derground railroad of London, begun in 1860 and opened in 1863, was the first of the kind in the world and has continued to I the only one, the whole system being far below the streets, and passengers going down stairs from the side pavements to stations underneath the carriage way. The London system has been greatly extended in recent years, and there are now two systems with a total length of nearly fifty miles and four tracks a considerable part of the way. The mileage of the New York system as now projected and contracted for will not be nearly as great as this. though it will doubtless be increased in future years. The work will, of course, be enormously expensive, but is expected to yield handsome dividends, as any form of rapid transit in New York must. motive power to be employed has not yet been decided upon. Electricity and compressed air were specified in the invitation to bidders, but a proviso was added which of propulsion known at the time of the completion of two-thirds of the road except one producing combustion in the tunnel. It is expected that work on the tun-

chief engineer says the entire railway can

points and prosecuted concurrently and in both directions on different sections of the tunnel. The undertaking of the work is the result of many years' discussion of the rapid-transit problem, travel on all surpacity. That the opening of an underground railroad will greatly relieve the surface lines, at least temporarily, there can be no doubt, but there are many who do not think it will furnish a permanent solution of the problem. The contractor himself, who has lived most of his life in New York city and had large experience in railroad building, is of this opinion. He

Now that the contract has been awarded, I don't mind saying that in my judgment, while the building of the tunnel will inprove the traffic of all other lines, as well as get an immense share of it itself, it will not diminish by one the number of hangers-on-to-straps. In other words, it will not solve the rapid-transit problem in this city. We shall always have the straphanger with us, just as surely as we have the poor. The conformation of the city and its immensely rapid growth render it practically sure that every new facility must become inadequate almost as soon as

The contractor is regarded as a Napoleon among his class, and the fact that ne has the work in charge is deemed a sure guaranty of its completion within the shortesi possible time. When completed it will be to visiting strangers as distinctly one of the "sights of New York" as the underground railway of London has long been in that city.

#### NATIONAL GUARD CONFERENCE. During this week some of the officers

of the National Guard in the different States will meet in this city to consider what is necessary to insure its better organization, which was so shattered in most States by the Spanish war. Such a meeting is of great importance, because there are few really intelligent people who do not hold the views of the fathers probable that most of the officers of the the organization or the command of troops which were called into the field by the the regiments in some States for actual service, doubtless most of the officers of the National Guard now see that the best the actual service to which they called. Many of the officers understand these defects far better than one was not of them. To the outsider who recalls the period of preparation for actual service, the present system of organization is defective. One of the defects which tends to defeat the efficiency which comes from discipline is the election of officers The most popular man is not sure to be the best fitted for command. If the company officer secures his election by soliciting the sition to enforce discipline. At the very outset, a change appears to be necessary in the method of selecting officers. In the organization of the excellent volunteer regiments which have been sent to the Philippines, the President commissioned of the line officers after their qualifications had been ascertained. Most of these officers were appointed before the recruiting of the regiments to which they were assigned was completed. Why would it not be better for the Governors of States which new companies of National Guards are to be formed to appoint officers who have passed satisfactory examinations and give them power to recruit companies: This course would insure efficient officers, and an efficient National Guard cannot be secured without a corps of skillful officers, no matter how good the enlisted men may be.

ignorance of officers and men respecting camp duties, which should have been they had not been taught as they should drill. If the guard is to be a useful re-As a whole, Justice Brown's remarks as serve it must be taught the secret of livimportant as instruction general opinion that the National Guard government of the United States. To the end that arms, clothing and equipage shall be uniform, the Federal government should supply all these. The general instruction in camps might well be under the supervision of the inspector general's depart with the clear understanding that those enlisting can be called into the service of the United States when there should be a call upon the States for troops. This

Much of the loss of life and sickness

The conference will probably consider these and other important matters regarding organization, a fact which makes the meeting very important.

would seem to be necessary to make it

# WOMEN VS. WOMEN.

The New York state Senate has decided consider woman suffrage legislation this session, which is a wise decision in view of the fact that it never has con sidered it with any seriousness, and simply wastes its time in dallying with the subject. For, though one body or other of the New York Legislature has, if the Jouris not mistaken, voted in favor of equal suffrage on several occasions, care is taken that this is not done when there is any probability of the other house having a majority the same way. What is tures in a number of other States. It is subject out at this time. It is more prob able that the warlike attitude of the suffragists and anti-suffragists toward each other has led to tins action. There has been an active and aggressive anti-suffrage orprefer to let the women have their fight outside of legislative halls. Now that ar anti-suffrage society has been formed in nel will begin within thirty days, and the Illinois also and a challenge flung to the

way, a striking similarity in the tone of the anti-suffrage utterances to that which dis tinguishes the speech of their opponents The Illinois antis claim to speak for "true womanhood," just as their suffrage sisters have been doing for lo these many years, and, like them, assert in substance that the morality, the purity, the fineness of sensibility and pretty much all the rest of the higher virtues of the race belong they do to man. Woman's mission, it to man, etc., etc. These words have familiar sound, so much of a one, indeed that they are a trifle wearisome. Would it not be as well for women to insist less upon their own transcendent virtues? If men will not do it for them it would do no harm for the subject to rest awhile. Since women began to celebrate themselves so much emphasis has been placed upon the record of their merits that would not be surprising if the world, in very self-defense, grew somewhat skeptical. At all events, the argument of the 'antis" that women are so good that they nust be protected from the ballot in order to preserve their goodness is not likely to impress even susceptible male legislators as very powerful. The Illinois "address" seems a waste of breath

IMPROVED CONDITION OF LABOR.

One of the most distinctive features of modern civilization is the condition of laoor, the bettered condition of working men and the improved relations between employers and employes. Much yet re mains to be done in these respects, but great deal has been accomplished. Th difference between present conditions and those which existed at the beginning of the nineteenth century is almost beyond conception. The Journal recently pointed out how large a part of the world, espe of the Republic concerning the importance | cially of the new world, practiced negro of a well-organized and thoroughly dis- slavery at the beginning of this century. ciplined militia in times of peace. It is Now it does not exist anywhere. Its abo lition has been an immense gain for free National Guard who will attend this con- labor. Equally remarkable and beneficial in its results has been the change in the relations between employers and employes These relations are not yet what the ought to be and doubtless will be at son good time in the future, but there has been a great change in recent years and the movement is widening and progressing of the commands were poorly fitted for In Europe it takes the form of what are called welfare or patronal institutions and in this country of co-operative and profit-sharing concerns. These all have the object in view, employers and employes close interest and welfare of both. A recent compilation of statistics on the subject shows that there are now 120 profit-sharing firms in France, forty in Germany, ninety-five in Great Britain and twenty in the United States. This enumeration only includes distinctly profit-sharing establishments and not only co-operative concerns. Besides these there are a great many manufacturing establishments in the United States whose proprietors have gone to great expense to promote the comfort and welfare of their employes in many ways. In many cases this plan involves the erection for th use of employes of elubhouses, lunch rooms, bath houses, bowling alleys, gym nasiums, reading rooms, etc. A number of railroads have adopted plans by which an their employes may become stockholders, and several leading banks have adopted accident insurance and life pension systems for the benefit of their emploves. Six American railroads now have relief departments for the benefit of their employes. Several of the largest manufacturing establishments in the States have set examples of liberality to workmen which smaller establishments are gradually adopting, and which in every instance are reported as having the best results in the promotion of good feeling and good work. The superintendent of one large establishment says: "The money value of such abstractions as peace, har mony, good will, sobriety, thrift and contentment cannot be expressed in dollars, but is nevertheless real." It is said that one-seventh of the railway employes in the United States are now comprehended in insurance departments established and

> be the aim and effort of all employers and employes to establish and promote a co dition so favorable to the interests of It is reported that some of those per sons who have been unable to inflate the prices of speculative stocks since the flurry cation of revulsion in the reports from the general business of the country. The Bank of England on Thursday further reduced its rate of discount to 41/2 per cent., and money is flowing into all the financial centers. The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company ordered \$1,000,000 worth rails of the Carnegie Company on Saturday and the Federal Steel Company sold 80,000 tons of rails last week and is gotiating a foreign order of 30,000 tons These facts regarding the most important branch of our industries point to a continuation of the activity of 1899.

are workingmen as well treated. It should

Kipling's Inspiration. "Wanted-A wife." Thus read the Eden

In its first issue, chroniclers have said. And Eve, on taking up the fresh edition. Was first to make "a truce with Adam's

Owing to the infirmities of advancing age John Ruskin dropped out of the active intellectual life of the century some years ago; his message had been delivered before that time, and the world, therefore, loses nothing by his death except the sense of personal interest that attaches to one who through mental force has filled a larger space than belongs to the ordinary man. He was an intellectual power in his time, that power being directed mainly to the development of things aesthetic. is classed first as an art critic, and it was to art that he directed his attention chiefly. but, great though his influence was promoting a growth of the art spirit, it is will live the longest. His writings dealing with social and moral questions, as in "Fors Clavigera," are likely to be the most permanent. In commenting on a new edi-

ters in England at all comparable to Tolstol. "Like the Russian, he is a teacher and preacher first, and a literary artist afterwards." This is probably a fair estinate. His ideas, even in art, are by no means generally accepted, and his social views are regarded as visionary; nevertheess, no one can read his works without a broadening of the mental horizon. He causes his readers to think. His ideas may not be approved, but he suggests other deas, and this suggestiveness of style is o be regarded as one of his greatest merits. It is probable that his books are not as widely read as formerly, and it is likely that his death will renew the interest in them. Personally, he did not attract men to him greatly, having marked peculiar-

ities not unlike those of Carlyle, but he

served his fellow-creatures well, notwith-

A pang of regret over the death at Lady-

smith of War Correspondent George War-

standing.

rington Steevens will be felt by all who have followed the career of this brilliant young Englishman. He first became known to the American public through his letters o the London Mail concerning the Bryan campaign, letters afterward published in book form under the title, "The Land of the Dollar." Although he was not entirely complimentary to this country and its institutions, he was friendly and good natured on the whole, and the book is worth reading, as showing the impressions a foreigner may form of our presidential campaigns. Next he was in Greece describing the Turko-Greek war. Then he went to the Sudan with General Kitchener, and no more vivid portrayal of a great soldier and his methods has been written. After the fall of Omdurman he made a tour through India, and his observations or the civil service there and the life lived by expatriated Britons gives a clearer idea of conditions than can be gained from many official reports. On his way to London he stopped at Rennes and sent an account of the Dreyfus trial to his paper. Then, apparently, he had a brief interval of rest, and in a literary paper it was announced hat he had gone into seclusion for the pur pose of writing a novel. But probably the novel was not more than begun, for he was soon heard of in South Africa. A few letters came from him there, but for weeks there has been nothing, and his whereabouts was unknown. Now it appears he was shut up with General White's men in Ladysmith. His death from fever was probably due to the unsanitary conditions incident to the siege. He is as much a hero as if he wore a soldier's uniform and died on the battlefield. It was a strenuous life, surely, though a short one, for he was but thirty years old. The world loses a great story of the siege of Ladysmith, for no other correspondent has such vivid power of description; but without it his name will not be forgotten.

A copy of the New Albany Gazette of Jan. 11, 1842, belonging to one of the Journal's subscribers, contains a letter from Indianapolis showing that legislatures were as prone to indulge in horse play then as now; also that the subject of finances was ever present with them. Some joking member had offered a "relief bill," proposing, among other things, an issue of 5,000,000 treasury notes based upon the Brooklyn soap factory, the Morris canal debt and the Florida alligator swamp property, etc., to be loaned to the people of Indiana on a credit of five years, "to aid them in paying their debts." Part of the day was spent in speaking to this measure more or less facetiously. In the local columns of the paper the editor apologizes for having paid little attention to certain lecturers, "the multiplicity of duties belonging to our station," he says, "rendering it impossible for us to notice them as they deserved; we, therefore, preferring, rather than inflict injustice in this manner, to pass them over in silence." The fact is noted that four or five distilleries n a Pennsylvania county have stopped operations on account of the rapid progress of temperance reform, and that the owner of one has transformed his establishment into a grist mill. In support of this statement as to temperance progress is the remarkable item from Washington, Ky., to the effect that "not a single drunkard is left in the place." A curious echo from old time is a paragraph stating that Fanny Ellsler had brought a libel suit against Park Benjamin for \$20,000. What naughty things had Benjamin said about the famous dancer?

A great many proverbs glibly would be much more useful to humanity if amplified or revised. For instance, the old one, "Take no thought for the morrow." etc., is habitually misconstrued. The meaning of it is. "Have such a hustle on have no time to think about to-morrow." The glib quotationists go on and refer to the passage, "Consider the lilies of the field how they grow"-well, how do they grow? By taking in all the sunshine and dew and rain that come their way every day. No one ever knew a lily of the field to "lay off" a day or to miss anything in any way of an opportunity for self-improvement that came within reach. "They toil not, neither do they spin." Of course they don't. they did, they wouldn't be lilies, and that's what they were made for. There is a lesson of individuality in it, too, as well as of industry-of being as well as of uoing. Another trite saying that causes many to be shiftless is, "All things come to him who waits." Yes, but no waiter you ever saw at a crowded railroad restaurant just before train time has any more occasion for "getting a move" than the individual who waits for success. Every moment of waiting must be filled with work. "The world leading statement in its common acform himself into a mighty busy collecting agency before the debt is absolved.

There would be more happy homes in this world if fewer people had the idea that a number of the years of adult existence are given us only for the purpose of getting ready to live and amassing sufficient of this world's goods to live comfortably "some time." Each year of our lives was given us to live, and not to get ready to live, except in so far that active employment and the extraction of as much enjoyment as possible out of each day's life is the best preparation for happiness in the future. The man who spends the best years of his life without home life and the best enjoyment man can have, simply to "get ready to live," is apt to find out, when he amasses enough of this world's goods to live with in luxury, that he' is out of practice and has utterly forgotten how to live.

A current paragraph states that a monument to the memory of Father Ryan, "the poet-priest and author of 'The Bivouac of Daughters of the Confederacy, and that a substantial sum has already been raised for the purpose. Inasmuch as it was not Father Ryan, but Theodore O'Hara who wrote "The Bivouac of the Dead." it looks as if the Virginia "Daughters" had more patriotic zeal than literary knowledge.

market for second-hand tombstones, but the inscriptions would detract from their

Miss Helen Gould has added another to her claims on public esteem by giving \$150, 000 toward building a new home for American sailors in Brooklyn.

#### BUBBLES IN THE AIR. Preliminary Diet.

I want to be an angel, and-lest there be some mistake-I eat, at every chance I get, fair Nancy's angel cake.

In the Early Stages. "What's a plutocrat?"

"A plutocrat is a man who hasn't been rich long enough to quit bragging about it." A Slander Set Right.

"Solomon had one thousand wives, hadn't "One thousand? No, indeed; only three

hundred." Of Good Spirits.

The eccentric ways of weather are a facwe can't gainsay.

se days which make us want to work also make us want to play.

### Two Reasons.

Why do men sing? Ah, well-a-day-Must jongleurs give their art away? They sing to hide the joy they feel, Or tell the grief they'd fain conceal.

A Necessary Monstrosity. Nephew-Aunt Minerva, do you believe in

the new woman? Aunt Minerva-Indeed, I do. You can't regulate some men at all unless you scare

### Footnotes.

'em to death.

Men who suddenly begin acting foolish are really only just getting found out.

The active enjoy life; and, incidentally

they prevent the inactive from enjoying it When you take cough syrup, don't think of the ipecac; fix your mind on the loaf

It is more creditable to be fooled occasionally than to go through life suspecting everybody.

A belligerent is a man who can't get into a row without wanting everybody else to

Resignation is praised as a virtue; but it is really man's compelled acceptance of things as they are.

When we have learned to be obstinate only when other people want us to be, we have learned how to live

Fashionable society is an unhappy aggregation of beings who are afraid to eat apples without peeling them.

### WISDOM OF CURRENT FICTION.

Coolness may be a virtue; it is also the strongest weapon of the scoundrel.-Judge

Elbridge. All of us who are churchmen are aware that the sermon affords a period for quiet reflection.-Red Pottage.

Nothing flatters a man so much as the happiness of his wife; he is always proud of himself as the cause of it.-Her Sailor. After all's said and done, we've got to take folks after the pattern they're made and not as we'd make 'em over-Her Sailor,

The preacher was speaking: "If there were but one word to express all the qualities of God. I should select the word forgiveness," he said.-Judge Elbridge. His knowledge of womankind supported him like a lifebelt, but it has been said

that life-belts occasionally support their wearers upside down.-Red Pottage. He said for a chap to steal money and hand it over to a charwoman in charity was contrary to human nature. All the same, if a thing actually happens, it can't be contrary to human nature.-The Human

It's a rum thing about old Briggs (the professor), that he doesn't care much for natural history objects while they're alive; he likes them dead and dried, or stuffed and pinned on cards, or in glass cases, all labeled and neat .- The Human Boy.

Men are very delicately constituted; they have been known to seek the society of girls in general, of any girl, because some girl made them unhappy; and when some girl has made them unhappy they are still more susceptible.-Their Silver Wedding

# LITERARY NOTES

S. R. Crockett, the author, shows in his person much of the aptitude for good fight ing which he loves in his heroes. He stands six feet high, with a breadth of shoulders to match, and with his ruddy cheeks, his red beard and keen blue eyes looks more like a man of action than of letters.

It has always been asserted that assistants. One day, when Dumas pere met Dumas fils on the street, he asked him whether he had read his latest novel. "No." said Dumas junior. "Have you?"

Suemas MacManus, after having disposed of short stories to almost every magazine of note in the country, is preparing to re turn to his home in Ireland. During his stay in this country Mr. MacManus has collected some material which may induce him to depart for once from his usual vein of Irish folk lore.

Among the works of fiction particularly recommended for study by the Post Gradences of the Methodist Episcopal Church are "No. 5 John Street," by Richard Whiteing, and "Tony Drum," by Pugh. These books are included in the subject of "The Church and Social Reform" in the scheme of study laid down for 1900.

Robert Barr, the novelist, arrived in New York from the other side on Thursday on the Oceanic, and when seen later at this time lies in the fact that I have just completed an American novel, and although I still feel perfectly familiar with the country, I have nevertheless been absent for eighteen years, and desire to submit it to some friends of mine before publication, in order to be on the safe side. We regret to hear, says the London

Leader, that Mr. Thomas Hardy is not in a satisfactory state of health, and may fore long, away from the downs and cider lands of his beloved, but relaxing, Wessex. It is possible that he may temporarily leave Dorchester and take a house in Scotland Mr. Hardy, the Leader adds, is not an outand-out supporter of the war, though his sympathy with the soldiers is, as might have been expected from the creator of the Trumpet Major," complete. Among wellknown writers who take up an advanced position against the war, from first to last, are Mme. Sarah Grand, "Ouida," Edna Lyall, Herbert Spencer, Meredith, William Watson and Lord Acton

A gossiper in the New York Mail and Express says: "There isn't as much starying in a garret on the part of authors as there once was. I hear that Thomas Nelson Page has already realized some \$7.00 from the sale of his Christmas story, Santa Claus's Partner,' and that his novel 'Red Rock,' has brought him not far from \$50,000. Such figures do not suggest starvation-or, if they do, the starvation is so novel of 'Peter Sterling,' which made its first appearance in 1894, is still so good a seller that it returned several thousand dollars to its author last year.'

Anthony Hope is not superstitious, says a London writer. He has left his lucky clients, and has working offices on Buckingtion of this work lately issued, an English a law enabling them to seize tombstones ham street, near the Strand-much as one

writer says Ruskin is the only man of let- for bad debts. Possibly they might find a | might say West Tenth street, near Broadway. The house is old, and dark, and dingy. It overlooks the London lodgings of Benjamin Franklin and the rooms of Peter the Great of Russia when they were in the city. It is on the site of the famous York house, home of Bacon. Hope's lodgings are full of books. On the mantel are original drawings by Charles Dana Gibson, and pipes. Mr. Hope sleeps at the house of his father, a London clergyman, and on Sunday mornings he reads the service in the

senior Hawkins's church. Mr. Robert Barr, the tale writer, is a Canadian by birth, but he nevertheless thinks but small beer of Canada as an encourager of literature. He has been examining a statistical year book and is moved by this exercise to say: "I find that in those years Canada transformed something like a hundred million bushels of good wheat into spirituous liquor, but her production of books during the same time seems to have been so infinitesimal that the statistical year book does not even mention the output. It will be seen by these statements that it is not the lack of money that makes Canada about the poorest book market in the world outside of Senegambia. The bald truth is that Canada has the money, but would rather spend it on whisky than on books. It prefers to inflame its stomach rather than inform its brain. And yet there are people who actually hold that Canada is an intellectual country!"

### ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

An unknown woman has provided funds with which to establish a woman's university in Berlin. It is to begin with fifty students who intend to become journalists, librarians or museum attendants.

Senator Hoar amuses himself by com-

piling old statistics. The other day he said he had found that 95 per cent. of the present congressmen wear frock coats and silk hats to the session, but that a majority of the senators stick to business suits. The Kruger statue, projected at Pre-

toria, is famous for two reasons: First, because the artist was daring enough to perpetuate the tall hat; and, secondly, cause the top of the hat is hollow, and "it is to be kept filled with water, so that the little birds may have a drink." This is the thoughtful idea of Mrs. Kruger. Mr. Labouchere writes in London Truth:

'The Boers, we are told, are terrified at the bare rumor that bayonets are approaching, and fly in dismay. All this is arrant nonsense. I remember General Grant once told me that, if he had to command again have no bayonets. 'I do not.' he said. 'recollect one case in which it was of any

It was as good as arranged by President Faure that the German Emperor should be invited to visit the 1900 exhibition. The late President flattered himself that he could keep down the League of Patriots, an organization to which he himself belonged, were the Emperor his guest; but since his death the idea of bringing his imperial Majesty into the show as a "fetchng feature" has been given up.

It is said that Governor Crane, of Massachusetts, is very popular among the emcloyes of his paper mill in Dalton, owing to his liberal treatment of them. There are several aged men in the town whose sole duty is to walk to the office of the mills and draw their pay-a sort of pension tor services loyally rendered in the past. A strike in the establishment has not been known in the three generations of family management.

The handsomest man in the Senate is Aldrich, of Rhode Island, and he is growing handsomer all the time, for every year that adds a touch of gray to his temples mellows his face and lightens it. His figure is as handsome as his face, for it is lithe and well developed. He is not altogether unlike Ambassador Draper, for whom he was often mistaken when General Draper was a member of the House.

As early as last July the payment of a portion of Lieutenant Gillmore's pay, which had been turned over to his wife while he was in the Philippines, was stopped by the Navy Department on the theory that the gallant officer was dead. It took more than three months of fighting red tape and pulling strings before Mrs Gillmore, who never doubted that her hus band was alive, succeeded in having the payments resumed

A new "religion" has been invented in Rockmart, Ga., by a Mrs. Roberts, one of the tenets of which consists in offering animal sacrifices. Mrs. Roberts is high priestess and she now has eighteen followers. She was formerly a member of the Baptist Church for thirty years. Converts to the new faith are made "by force and fear," and the community is being terrorized. One of the beliefs of the faithful is that all who ride bicycles will be damned.

Paris exposition, because it is to receive \$12,000 as rent for the house in Paris formerly owned by the famous American dentist, Dr. Evans, who helped the Empress Eugenie to escape. This fine mansion, at the corner of the Avenue Malakoff, and the Bois de Boulogne, now the property of Philadelphia under Dr. Evans's will, is to be used by the French government as the palace of sovereigns and royal personages visiting the exhibition

The horse and bicycle have fled From modern needs they say; But the father who with cold half dead Must draw the gleeful youngster's sled Is on the turf to stay. -Washington Star.

The company we'd like to have we often cannot get: company that causes us regret; The company that stays too long destroys our peace of mind. the company we ought to ask-oh,

that's the hardest kind

-Philadelphia Evening Post. PHENOMENAL SPEED.

The Turbine System of Propellers Are the Fastest Vessels Affont.

Cassier's Magazine.

For nearly three years the famous little torpedo boat Turbinia-the first vessel fitted with steam turbine machinery-has held the distinction of being the fastest vessel in the world, and only recently she attained what may truly be called the over forty miles an hour. The Turbinia was commenced in 1894, and, after many alterations and preliminary trials, was satisfactorily completed in the spring of 1897. The first vessels of larger size than the Turbinia to be fitted with steam turbine machinery are the torpedo boat destroyer Viper for the British government, and a similar vessel for Sir W. G. Armstrong. These vessels are of approximately same dimensions as the thirty-knot stroyers now in the British service, but have slightly more displacement. The boilers are about 12 per cent. larger, and it is estimately that upwards of 10,000 horseower will be realized under the usual conlitions, as against 6,500 with reciprocating engines. The engines of these vessels are in duplicate. Two screw shafts are placed on each side of the vessel, driven, respectively, by a high and a low-pressure turbine, and to each of the low-pressure turbine shafts a small reserving turbine is permanently coupled for going astern, the estimated speed astern being 15% knots and ahead 35 knots, Two propellers are placed on each shaft. The latter of the two yessels mentioned has already reached a speed of upwards of 32 knots

# Where Americans Score.

As ingenuity and the mechanical instinct s widespread in America, it becomes easy to understand how the Americans, hampered by dear labor and great distances. have succeeded in utilizing their ingenuity to overcome them. As a result, labor-savslow as not to be embarrassing. I was also ing appliances have reached perfection. informed this week on what I regard as The geographical difficulty of great disgood authority that Paul Leicester Ford's | tance has been met by an unrivaled system of inexpensive and efficient railways, Cheapness of construction has been attained by the adoption of bogie rolling stock; by the absence of stringent regulations as to signals, stations, fencing, etc., and by the cheapness of land and the simplicity of the legislation for its compulsory purchase. The result is that goe can be carried in many cases at one-sixth of a penny per ton-mile, which is very much lower than the usual rate in Eng-